

FRS NEWSLETTER

Volume 5- Issue #33 - March 2002

Dear FRS-Holland Friends!

Welcome in this first 2002 edition. Last time we were in the middle of the X-Mas period, by now we are approaching the Easter weekend. I do hope you have started 2002 in a positive way. The main aim of this little but informative publication is that you can always consult it to quickly find info about a particular SW station, for instance the Email address, snailmail address etc. And that's for many readers easier than consulting the Internet. Ofcourse, the Internet is more up-to-date but as a kind of reference book the FRS Newsletter meets the needs of many SW/ free radio enthusiasts. Remember: your ideas, suggestions, criticism are more than welcome via our new Email address or via the Herten maildrop (see elsewhere on this frontpage). Important: we do have a brandnew E-mail address, see elsewhere on this page. Enjoy reading the news....

73's, Peter V.

FRS Broadcasting Activities

During the last 4 months of 2001 FRS-Holland was very active. Remember we were on the air late Sept., early October, Nov. 18th & 25th and not too forget Sat/Sun/ Mon Dec. 22nd, 23rd & 24th. This was our final 2001 trm, the traditional X-Mas party which was a 5½ hour marathon broadcast aired on 7450 kHz. Signal quality was fine that weekend. There was a problem in the night of Sat to Sun but luckily FRS-H was back on the airwaves at 09.35 UTC on Sundays. Pxs were presented by Mark Jones, Steven Reath and Peter Verbruggen and saw a return of the International Listeners' Letter Show in which all the November mail was handled. FRS Goes DXmas part 1 & 2 was aired as well. In short: a wide variety of music, letters and information. Sun Dec. 23rd saw a test to the USA as well. The test lasted almost two hours (06.00- 08.99 UTC) and took place on 6275 kHz. Results were good with solid reception throughout Europe and a relatively good signal in the USA as well!

Sun Febr. 17th FRS-Holland tested successfully to the States on 6285 kHz. The test was conducted in the early morning hours.

NEW E-MAIL ADDRESS *** NEW E-MAIL ADDRESS ***

As from April 30th onwards the following 3 E-Mail addresses will expire: <frsh@club.tip.nl>, <frsh@go.to> and <peter.verbruggen@tip.nl>. Instead there's one new E-mail address which is already valid from March 23rd onwards: <frs.holland@hccnet.nl>. Bookmark it right now and remove the other(s) from your address book!!

P.O.Box 2702, 6049 ZG Herten, the Netherlands

SW FREE RADIO SCENE

General

Hello and welcome in this Spring 2002 edition of the FRS Newsletter. In this edition we cover the period mid December 2001- March 17th 2002. Of course we do emphasize the last few weeks rather than the X-Mas period which is already far behind us.

Propagation

During the past few months conditions have been pretty good. Several weekends propagation was very favourable. As a result many of the relatively low-powered stations have been heard in a fine quality proving you don't need to broadcast with hundreds of watts to achieve good results. Provided you make use of a decent antenna system and your modulation is loud and clear, 40 or 50W is often enough to reach vast territories in Western Europe and beyond. Right now conditions are getting less and less during daytime but: the evening propagation is improving resulting in loud and clear short skip signals during the evening and nightly hours.

Reception in the USA:

It would go too far to mention all stations being received in the USA in the past months. Fact is that (almost) weekly at least a few stations were picked up by American DXers such as Dave Valko, Dave Hodgson or Andrew Yoder. During a number of weekends the number of stations being received came close to 20!! For instance Sun Jan. 13th Dave Valko logged no less than 16 Eur pirates. One of those station, German Dr. Tim, reached Northern America with only 11watts. That's the real free radio spirit!!

X-MAS Season 2001

Almost three months ago....the 2001 Holiday

Season. It is of no use to mention all kinds of details. Just a few statistics giving the approximate numbers of stations which were active (Unids excluded):

Sat Dec. 22nd	20 stations	Sun Dec. 23rd	40 stations
Mon Dec. 24th	20 stations	Tue Dec. 25th	30 stations
Wed Dec. 26th	25 stations	Sat Dec. 29th	15 stations
Sun Dec. 30th	33 stations	Mon Dec. 31st	20 stations
Tue Jan. 1st	33 stations		

Also in 2001 **RADIO ACTION** popped up on the SW bands. The station is to be heard at each X-Mas occasion on 48 metres. 2001 was no exception with Action on 6202 kHz putting out an excellent signal. Address is P.O.Box 94, 7038 ZH Zeddam, the Netherlands.

RADIO ALFA LIMA (3) remains active on Sun mornings but also during Sat night. Sun mornings the station concentrates on the higher end of the 48 mb. During nighttime 15070 and 21900 are being used to reach remote areas. In an E-Mail the RAL OP warned colleague SW OPs not to use freqs above 10 MHz which are often used. What he intends to say is that it is impossible to check whether a high freq is free because of the very long skip. The only solution is A) contacting the stations which might use such freq or better B) using a different freq which is not in use by others! We think RAL is right in arguing that OPs should be carefully consider which freq they are willing to use when it comes to high freqs! E-Mail: <alinter@rendo.dekooi.nl>. Websites: <www.alfalima.net>.

RADIO ARGUS was heard a few times on 6210, for instance in the first weekend of January and Febr. 10th. Signal quality on the European continent was fair to good. Since Januray Argus is using the UK Radio address which is P.O.Box 53, Bilstone WV14 6YS, Wolverhampton, West Midlands, UK. See also UK Radio.

BAARLE-NASSAU pirate meeting: Saturday August 24th 2002. The meeting will commence at 15.00 CEST. There's a sleeping place in a huge tent or more luxurious: a local hotel. The exact place to be will be announced in August. For more info send an E-Mail to <summermeeting@hotmail.com>.

RADIO BANDONICA (3) can be heard from time to time on 11485 kHz/ 26 mb. For instance on Sun Febr. 3rd Bandonica was heard in North America. Email address which is <bandonica@hotmail.com>. Their webpage remains <www.listen.to/bandonica>.

Following several disappointments regarding the use of 7480, **RADIO BENELUX** (5) and CWR decided to leave 41 metres in favour of 51 metres 5.8 MHz. This step was announced late January. At first 5820 kHz was mentioned but that wasn't the best choice and following tests 5810 seemed to be a good alternative. BNL carried out three tests on 5810 but surprisingly decided to return to 41 metres. Sun March 3rd BNL was noted on 7410 kHz with a fair signal. Salient detail: that day 7480 was free to use...

RADIO BOOMERANG was heard with a very powerful signal on 6275 Sun Jan. 6th. The station OP announced that this show was the final one for 2002 and said farewell to its listeners... Boomerang can be reached via the following E-mail address: <box73@gmx.net>. Add is P.O.Box 73, 7160 AB Neede, the Netherlands.

RADIO BORDERHUNTER's Baarle-Nassau P.O.Box has closed since January and that means the station can only be reached via E-mail: <borderhunter@hotmail.com>.

Same story: **RADIO BRIGITTE INT.**'s P.O.Box 15, B-2320 Hoogstraten has closed. Brigitte has no E-Mail address, so that makes it difficult to get in touch with OP Frans... See also Radio Hamamelis!

BRITAIN RADIO INT. was heard via JRR on 6234 Sun Dec. 23rd. The next occasion BRI was being heard was during Boxing Day. This time own transmitting equipment was in use. At 09.00 a nice signal could be picked up on the European continent. New Year's Day BRI was heard on 6245 with a Roger Davis Show presenting a wide variety of oldies in his usual high standard. Apart from Dec. 30th, all BRI pxs being aired during the X-Mas Holiday Season were coming from BRI's own tx. Add is P.O.Box 39, Waterford in Ireland.

RADIO CAROUSEL was to be heard on 7500 kHz Sunday December 16th. Obviously the broadcast was a relay via Ozone Radio. Carouse seems



the name Radio Fox no. 1 and/or Pirate Radio Fox. In the previous edition we indicated the station as being a new station (logged Nov. 1st 2001) but we are uncertain whether this is true. Thurs Jan. 17th Fox was noted on 6238 at 17.45 UTC and Sun Febr. 3rd 6211 was in use during the evening hours. Fox was also heard on 6295 kHz Thursday March 14th and 15th. On the 17th 7470 was in use and fair reception was noted. Correct reports will be verified with a photo-QSL. Email add is <radiofox48@com>. The station plans to make use of the Ytterby address (10) in the near future.

▷ **RADIO FREE LIMBURG** made one of its very rare trms on Sat Dec. 22nd. Freq was 6205 and at 13.30UTC a fair signal was heard on the continent. The output consisted of schlager music, regional news and commercials making it more than plausible that it was a relay of L1 Radio, the regional radio station active in the province of Limburg, the most southern province of the Netherlands. Dec. 25th Free Limburg was on 6283 & 6285. Tue Jan. 1st Free Limburg was heard with live shows on 6205. That same freq was used Sat March 23rd in the early afternoon. The station's ID is "This is the Voice of Free Limburg". No address known. E-mail address is <pa92@hetnet.nl>.

▷ **RADIO GALAXY** (10) is a British SW station which was heard all afternoon on Sat Febr. 16th. Freq was 6295 kHz and despite the relatively low power (20W), a nice signal was heard on the European continent. March 2nd and March 10th Galaxy was again heard on 6295. The station is run by Dave Norris, Bill Lewis & Paul Stewart.

▷ British **RADIO GERONIMO** (10) was heard with a Peter V. X-Mas px on 7535 kHz Dec. 25th. In January this show was repeated on 9330 kHz/ 31 metres. A very strong signal was noted when Geronimo was relayed via the Dutch Relay Service on 6295 Sun Febr. 17th. March 3rd saw Geronimo on 9330 kHz with a nice signal. At the moment Geronimo has no E-Mail address!

▷ **GOOD MUSIC RADIO** returned after a long absence on 48 metres 6200 kHz Sun Febr. 3rd. Signal quality was only poor/ fair making it difficult to catch the address. Address unknown.

▷ **RADIO HAMAMELIS** seems to be the new name for Radio Brigitte. The station was logged Sun Febr. 10th on 6540 kHz. A week later 6307 was in use 'cause 6540 was occupied by Crystal Radio. Sat March 2nd 6302 was in use with schlager music and the next day 6540. The station is 22 years old and it is a kind of weird why station OP Frans changed the name Brigitte into Hamamelis. Since the end of 2001 the station is without a snailmail address.

▷ **RADIO KORAK INT.** was heard on Sat Febr. 2nd 2002 on 3927. Signal quality was very good. It was RKI's first trm since quite some time. Eight days later RKI was heard on a Sun evening and March 16th RKI put out another excellent signal on 3927. The Int. pxs continue on Saturday evenings and night and the address is POBox 134 in 3780 BC Voorthuizen in the Netherlands. RKI is one of the few Dutch survivors on the 76 mb. Where are all the others?

▷ Since Tue March 19th **LASER HOT HITS** shifted frequency from 6219 to 6220 kHz. At the same time the output of both outlets (this includes 7465 kHz on 41 metres) have been upped. A new antenna is erected for the 41 mb outlet. Sat March 23rd LHH was heard on 3970 kHz within the 76 mb. On Sun 9390 kHz was heard in parallel with the 48 mb QRG.

▷ **RADIO LIKEDDEELER** has been active on various 41 mb freqs lately. Sun Febr. 10th a nice signal was heard on 7506. March 3rd 7474 was in use via a Dutch station. For a change Likedeeler was heard within 48 metres on Sat March 9th: 6290 was the freq. March 16th saw a repeat of the previous week's show on 6290. The next day Likedeeler was on 7470 kHz. Address is P.O.Box 73, 7160 AB Neede, the Netherlands.

▷ **LONDON ARCHIVE** was heard with a fine signal on 7450 kHz all weekend long Sat/Sun Jan. 5th/6th. London Archive is a kind of collaboration between EMR and FRS-Holland. The station was already heard November 25th, the day FRS-Holland was repeating its 21st birthday shows. Pxs were produced and presented by Steven Reath and consisted of a wide variety of pop music and extracts from former London based landbased pirates such as Radio Jackie, Kaleidoscope etc. Very interesting stuff!!

▷ **MAGIC AM** announced the new <magic.am@wanadoo.nl> E-Mail. Add is P.O.Box 94, 7038 ZH Zeddum.

▷ Dutch **RADIO THE MARKIES INT.** was testing on 6400 Sun Febr. 3rd. An improved Inverted V aerial and some 35W of power were not enough to reach the other side of the Atlantic. E-mail is <markies62@hotmail.com>.

▷ Back after more than a decade: Finnish **RADIO MATILDA** (10) was heard Sat March 16th (evenings) on 7450 (LSB) and Sun March 17th on 7300 and 6965 kHz. Signals were just audible in Western Europe.

▷ **MERCHWEILER DX CAMP 2002:** August 9th, 10th & 11th 2002. Address is Dorfstrasse 13, 66589 Merchweiler in Germany. More infos in the June edition!

▷ German **RADIO MONO** was noted several times on 6295//9380 kHz with excellent signals and crisp clear mod. The station was very active in December and January with almost weekly Sat/Sun activities on 6295//9380 kHz. All broadcasts were carried out on two parallel freqs. During all of these trms (looking at the technical quality of the signals) it was obvious that professional transmitting equipment was in use. It appears two similar Rohde & Schwarz txs were used resulting in top quality signals. Sat Jan. 26th came an involuntary end to Radio Mono's SW activities. At 14.15 UTC the station was raided by German authorities. Two police men and two Bundespost employees visited the station's broadcasting address. None of the txs were confiscated (too heavy??). At the moment of the raid Mono was not on air. Earlier that day Mono had been active on 9380//6295 kHz. Following the raid, the website <www.Radio-Mono.de.vu> was closed down. Email: <radiomono@hotmail.com>. One day after the raid, Dr. Tim put out a special 20 min. show on 6281 informing the listeners about the raid.

▷ **RADIO MORNINGSTAR** returned on the airwaves after a long absence. The Dutch station was on 6300 Sat March 16th. It was a low power test and the SW were radiated by a 27 MHz antenna. E-Mail add is <radiomorningstar@home.nl>. No snailmail address available.

▷ Following a long absence **RADIO NEW WORLD**, a joint Torenvalk/Tonair project, returned on SW 6305/ 6310 kHz in parallel with 6373 Dec. 25th. The station hadn't been observed since the 1999 summer. The latter freq was operated by Tonair, 6305 and 6310 by RTI. Add is P.O.Box 94, NL 7038 ZH Zeddum in the Netherlands.

▷ **RADIO NOORDERLICHT** uses the following E-mail address: <mikko@wanadoo.nl>.

SW ADDRESSES:

3 = POBox 663, 7900 AR Hoogeveen, The Netherlands
4 = POBox 130, 92504 Rueil-Cedex, France.
5 = POBox 1136, D-06201 Merseburg, Germany (new!)
10 = SRS, Ostra Porten 29, 442 54 Ytterby in Sweden

▷ **RADIO NORDSEE WS** was heard Sun Dec. 16th on 6210. OP Hannibal announced a brandnew QSL card. Another welcome initiative is the return of the popular RNI Goes DX show in 2002. Address: P.O.Box 2209, D-77612 Offenburg in Germany. As a result of the 2001 raid, the RNI OP Hannibal has to pay a € 500 penalty. The tx has already been returned.... New home for the tx is a museum.

▷ **RADIO NORTHLIGHT** (9) has updated its website. take a look at <www.StudioNorthlight.de>. E-mail: <mail@StudioNorthlight.de>. New address: P.O. Box 1136, 06201 Merseburg, Germany.

▷ **RADIO NOVA INT.** (UK) was heard during several occasions. Over the X-Mas period the station was noted on 6210 Dec. 22nd/23rd/24th/25th/26th. The station was heard with a solid signal and loud modulation. During the Jan. 12th/13th weekend Nova returned with tests on 9290 kHz/ 31 metres. The station wasn't heard on 31 metres since April 2001 (following a raid by the British authorities- no persons were caught). Reception on the continent was varying between poor and good. The station was heard Europe-wide. Sat Jan. 26th/27th marked the first regular Nova weekend in 2002. A solid signal was to be heard on 6210, Nova's fixed 48 mb frequency. Sun March 3rd Nova was 7450 kHz introducing "1st Sun of the month" trms instead of "4th Sun of the month". The 2nd or 3rd Sun is allocated for repeats of the previous week on 9290 kHz/ 31 metres. The proposed March 10th or 17th repeat had to be cancelled for technical reasons. BTW: future Nova programming on 41 metres will be on either 7450 or 7525 kHz. RNI, c/o P.O.Box 130 in 92504 Rueil Cedex France. RNI requests a SAE from the UK or 2 x IRC's or 2 x US\$ from overseas.

▷ **RADIO OMROEP ZUID** continues with tests on 21890 kHz. Sun Jan. 20th & Febr. 3rd the station was active in the afternoon. Fact is that on the 20th Jan. ROZ was heard in the USA. Sio-422. Email: <roz.am@iae.nl>. No snailmail address is available.

▷ **OZONE RADIO** is regularly noted on 41 mb freqs including 7434 & 7500. Sun March 24th Ozone announced to be on 7500 07.00-11.30 hrs UTC. Evening transmission between 17.30-19.30 UTC on 5780 kHz. Signal via this outlet was good. Ozone is particularly interested in reports for the 5780 outlet. Add is 85 Hillside Rd West, Suffolk, NR35 RH in the UK. E-Mail: <bms4ozone@compuserve.com>.



▣ **RADIO PACMAN** can be heard irregularly on several freqs, mostly outside the 48 mb. Sun March 3rd Pacman was QSO-ing on 6533 with the usual nice signal (despite the low-powered 10W tx). No address available.

▣ **RADIO PANDORA** (10) was heard on 7395 Febr. 10th. That same morning Swedish WRCR was relayed. Signal quality was fair. Febr. 24th Pandora carried out tests on 9315 kHz with a 20W tx. Sun March 24th yet another 9315 trm was observed. Signal was fair. Email is < pandoraradio@hotmail.com >.

Take care...you enter the POWER ZONE....

▣ **POWER AM** seems to be a new Amsterdam based SW station which was heard with a powerful signal on 6260 Sun March 10th. Two weeks later a test was heard on 6211. Signal quality was excellent. The station announced the following E-Mail address: < poweram@netmail.nl >.

▣ Sun Jan. 13th saw a new station testing on 41 metres 7594 kHz: **POWER 41**. It was announced the test was carried out with approx. 100W. Sun Febr. 3rd 7450 was occupied and a week later 7495 was in use with fair signals. E-Mail add is < power41dx@aol.com >. The station will also be active on 7525 kHz (overnight pxs).

▣ **POWER 48** uses from now on (10). E-Mail address is as follows: < pwr48@hotmail.com >.

▣ **SCANDINAVIA 75** was heard on Sat Febr. 15th & 16th on 6210, 6285 & 3926 kHz (not in parallel). A fairly good signal was heard from this new SW station. The following E-Mail add was given out: < antenne@europe.com >.

▣ Remember **RADIO SCIROCCO** ? The station was heard after a 8 month silence on 6276 kHz Fri Jan. 4th. Only a mere 10W are being used. The E-mail address is < scirocco@swingt.nl >.

▣ The **SHORT WAVE SURFER** made its debut on SW on 6300 Sun Febr. 17th. Exactly a month later the station was back on 6280. Power seems to be 25W fed into an Inverted V. No address available yet.

▣ **RADIO SKYLINE** from Germany can be reached via P.O.Box 139, 7890 AC Klazienaveen, the Netherlands. Sun Febr. 3rd Skyline was heard in fair quality on 6280 kHz.

▣ **SWINGING RADIO ENGLAND** is one of the three regular "All Weekend" stations emanating from the London area. Sun Dec. 17th the station was raided by the UK authorities. At the moment of the raid no SRE crew members were at the secret location were both medium and SW txs were installed. As mentioned in previous reports, SRE was also putting out a local AM service for the Greater London area apart from the weekly SW weekend trms on 6276. The fact that not only txs but valuable audio processing equipment was installed at the location as well, clearly indicates the station's key figures weren't really prepared for any authorities' action. Comment from a SRE spokesman: "The bad news is that sre got busted last weekend at the sw and mw sites everything was taken tx compressors tape decks equalisers the lot this is a very unusual turn of events hence lack of back up equipment we really did not expect

this anyway we will try to get back on for christmas if we can good luck to you all god bless and have a great christmas from all at SRE." Dec. 25th and 26th SRE was heard on 6285 and 6288 resp. with fair signals on the continent. Sat Febr. 16th/Sun Febr. 17th SRE returned to its 6276 channel and continued with weekly weekend shows on 48 metres. But not for very long! SRE was raided for the 2nd time on Sun Febr. 17th at approx. 12.50 UTC by the DTI agents in co-operation with the CID and Home Office. The medium wave and SW txs were both taken along with tape decks etc. One wouldn't believe it but true: it was the first this weekend SRE had come back on since their last raid by the DTI. In an E-Mail Tony Randall/ Dave Doubledex said: "it would appear that we are being victimised by the DTI with the help of the now defunct Radio Free L... staff. There is other MW pirate radio activity in the london area (Radio Enigma/ Radio 1179) but they are safe from being raided it would appear. We will be back asap, regards to all at." For the Greater London area SRE was broadcasting on 819 AM over the weekends. One reason could be that the authorities have had enough of other station operators being threatened by SRE staff over the air and also perhaps the programme content may be a bit 'near to the knuckle' as they say in England. BTW: As a result of the raid, Enigma has closed down of its own accord! Not lang after a first reaction from the SRE staff a second E-Mail was sent to several persons. In this E-Mail the SRE staff accuses RFL people from having ties with the DTI. No doubt there is a serious dispute between SRE and RFL, the station which hasn't been heard since Oct. 7th (also due to problems with other persons- see FRS Newsletter #32 from Dec. 2001). Of course we cannot say whether these allegations are true.... We are only interested in radio stations putting out interesting pxs over the weekends. In this respects we hope that both SRE and RFL return to the air because we feel both stations provided the listening audience with interesting shows! Fact is that SRE will be back once again on 6276.

Hopefully with good programming and without authorities! As far as RFL is concerned we have no further info about an eventual return on the 51 mb airwaves. SRE E-Mail is <Swingingradioengland@hotmail.com>. RFL's E-Mail is (was?) < 5805@radiofreelondon.co.uk >. Latest news: Sat March 23rd saw a brief test of SRE on 6276. Signal was fine.

▣ **RADIO TORENVALK** can be heard from time to time mainly at the higher end of the SW bands. The station is known for its solid signals and serious programming approach. Addr is P.O.Box 94, 7038 ZH Zeddam. New E-mail: < freeradio48@hotmail.com >.

▣ **UK RADIO** seems to have been increasing power to 200W. fact is that since early January the station's 6266 signal has improved dramatically. The station is co-operating with the London Radio Argus crew. UK radio can be heard most Sundays on 6266. UK Radio can also be heard on the Internet via Live 365 every Sunday from 20.00 UTC. Surf to < members.tripod.com/ukhothits >. Listeners who send a report, do receive the UK/ Argus News newsletter, a joint publication from UK Radio and Radio Argus. Sat March 23rd saw UK Radio all evening on 3920 kHz. We are uncertain about any future plans regarding regular 76 mb broadcasts. Addr is P.O.Box 53, Bilstone, WV14 6YS Wolverhampton, West Midlands, the UK. This address is also used by Radio Uranium and Mi Amigo, both of UK origin.

▣ **RADIO VALLERI** used to be an Irish pirate on SW long time ago (1970s!). Sat March 16th/ Sun March 17th the station returned on 6310 kHz with a special one-off transmission. To enable North American listeners to tune in, the station signed on at 21.00 UTC Sat evening. The signal was weak-power was 50W- and the reason for broadcasting was the celebration of St. Patrick's Day. The nostalgia pxs were hosted by the original presenters Derek Jones and Mike Anderson. E-Mail: < radiovalleri@yahoo.com >. Snailmail address is 52 Grange Road, Baldoyle, Dublin 13, Republic of Ireland.

▣ **RADIO VERONIQUE** (formerly Tower Radio) seems to be concentrating on 41 metres and so now and then 21 MHz as well. Sun Jan. 27th Veronique was heard on 7490 and 21890 kHz (in parallel!).

As an extra a signal was noted on 14981 but that was a harmonic from 7490 kHz. Sun Febr. 10th 7480 was in use with only a fair signal. For long distance reception 21870 was on air as well. March 17th 7490 was occupied. It was said that in the next 6 weeks the station would be silent. Pxs were in German, Dutch and a bit of English. E-Mail:

< shortwave@netmail.nl >. Add is P.O.Box 49, 7475 ZH Markelo.

▣ **VOICE OF THE NETHERLANDS** (3) has been heard with a number of irregular trms with both low and high power. Sun Febr. 3rd saw OP Gerrit on 7485 and 7487 with powerful signals. Website: < www.geocities.com/voice of the netherlands/>.

Email: < votn@hotmail.com >.

▣ **WEST & NORTH KENT RADIO** can be heard from time to time on 48 metres. Sat Febr. 2nd/ Sun Febr. 3rd WNKR was noted on 6285 with a nice signal. Last known Email add is < wnkr@37.com >. WNKR was a very regular SW stations in the first half of the 90s and was also associated to WGAS.

OFFSHORE RADIO NEWS

Peace station

In a not really suprising move, the people behind the project to bring a new peace station to Israel, have put it on a "back burner" for the meanwhile. The results of a feasibility study made here recently by the Harry de Winter group showed that it is not ready to start a radio station

with a peace orientated theme at this time under the present Israeli broadcasting laws, and the offshore option was also ruled out. A spokesman for the project told me that they will approach the subject (of peace) from "other angles". And so there goes another attempt....

LV 18 saved from the scrapyard

The former LV 18, a former lightship, is saved from the scrapyard. Pharos Charitable Trust bought the ship and it will be come part of the 'Harwich Lighthouse Experience Project 2002.' The ship will get a permanent anchorage in Harwich harbour. Head of the project, Tony O'Neil, is very happy the ship is now in good hands. The ship was used a number of times for RSL purposes. Best known is the ship for housing a number of RNI RSLs. There's a good chance the ship will again serve as a home for future RSLs.

CAROLINE NEWS

Satellite & Cable

The Astra 1G satellite is the current host for Radio Caroline. Its transmissions can be received across the whole of Europe at 19.2. Caroline broadcasts 24



hours 7 days a week via this satellite from their studios in Maidstone, Kent. Some technical info: The Astra 1G Satellite Frequency 11.876 Polarity 'H' Symbol Rate 27500 FEC 3/4.

Caroline's new cable service for the Netherlands commenced on the weekend on Jan 26th. The service covers the northern provinces of Groningen, Friesland, Drenthe and Twente and gives the station an additional potential audience of 2 million. Various of Caroline's UK staff were travelling to Holland for the launch party which took place on a ship, the Regina Andrea, moored just by the station's new Dutch studios at Kanaalweg 14f te Harlingen. To mention a few: Stevie Gordon, Barry James, Rob Ashard, Graham L. Hall, David Foster and Caroline engineer Alan Beech. The first two records being aired were typical Caroline songs: "All you need is love" and "Fool if you think it's over." The first English language show on the cable was presented by David Foster and Rob Ashard. Former Caroline presenter Stevie Gordon (the last person on the Mi Amigo in 1978!) and Graham Gill (also ex-RNI and RNW) co-presented a show during the opening weekend. For a complete series of photos from the opening weekend visit < www.mediapages.nl/jan1.htm >. Several Dutch newspapers covered the official start of the cable network pxx, for instance Dutch national daily "Het NRC Handelsblad". After the inaugural weekend, the cable relays the Maidstone Studio output at weekends with special Dutch and English programming coming from the Dutch studio during the week. So during the weekdays the satellite output is different from the cable programming. Web master Adrian Hondema will shortly create two independent web streams, one for all of the Dutch output and one for all of the Maidstone material. Sieste Brouwer has had to withdraw from making programmes for our satellite service. His work load for the new cable operation is too great. He is replaced on Monday evening by Mike Brill. Newcomer John Patrick presents live shows on Monday and Friday afternoons. Caroline also welcomed Allison (Ally) O'Malley, who is presently sharing Dave Foster's programme on Saturday but will soon be given her own air time.

576 AM tests

Radio Caroline carried out tests on 576kHz in the weekend of Saturday 23rd until 2000 UTC on Sunday 24th February. Trms came from Letland.

Caroline off Dutch coast?

The following report comes from Zeeland: "Radio Caroline is looking to anchor a ship off the Dutch south west coast. The organisation keeps an eye on the location where the long wave project Delta Radio would erect its antenna towers. Radio Caroline also tries to obtain the long wave freq which was originally allocated to Delta: 171 kHz long wave. The Radio Caroline attempt comes at the right moment because Delta Radio is losing its licenses for erecting the antenna towers and starting broadcasts on long wave 171. Delta should have been on the air January 1st 2002. But several reasons prevented the station from finishing the job in time. The antenna towers would be built on the bottom of the sea 35 kilometres off Walcheren." The report was to be read in the regional "Provinciale Zeeuwse Courant".

NEWS FROM AROUND THE WORLD

New station on European airwaves?

A station calling itself Laser Radio announces plans for a regular broadcast via a 100 kW shortwave transmitter in Europe. Laser Radio will broadcast in English and other languages to listeners throughout Europe and Great Britain via Shortwave and digital satellite. The station will provide airtime to a wide variety of groups - both commercial, religious and cultural. Laser Radio is committed to giving all types of groups the opportunity to broadcast to radio listeners throughout Europe at a very modest cost. We offer quality airtime at the most competitive rates available. The station hopes to launch its regular broadcasts in the early Spring. Check out the web site at: < www.laserradio.net >. The station is seeking presenters who can pre-record one hour shows and send them to the station address for future broadcast. Mailing address is: Laser Radio, BCM Aquarius, London WC1N 3XX, England. Station format will be music from 70's, 80's and 90's.

New Classic Rock station?

According to sources, a new rock station, Europa Classic Rock, is apparently due to launch "in late spring 2002" via a 1200kW transmitter based in Kaliningrad. The strap line is "the station with the best classic rock songs on 1386AM". How many stations are there on that frequency? According to these sources, they will be on the air from 9pm to 3am each night.

News Release: Grant of Long Wave License

The Isle of Man Communications Commission has today (13 February 2002) announced the grant of a substantive licence to Isle of Man International Broadcasting plc (IMIB). The licence, under the Broadcasting

Act 1993 (of Tynwald), is to enable IMIB to provide a long wave radio service broadcasting on 279 kHz, and will be for a ten-year period. The service, provisionally called MusicMann 279, will be music led and will target an audience across Britain and Ireland. It is expected to launch towards the end of 2003.

IMIB plans to install the transmission antenna on an offshore platform in Manx waters some 9km northeast of Ramsey, Isle of Man, near the spot Radio Caroline was anchored in the 1960's. Some 50 new jobs, both full and part time, will be created in the town where the studios will be located. As well as its Isle of Man broadcasting licence, IMIB will hold a Wireless Telegraphy licence from the United Kingdom Radiocommunications Agency. Announcing the grant of the licence, the Chairman of the Communications Commission, the Hon Phil Braidwood, MHK, said "The Isle of Man first sought a high power broadcasting frequency four decades ago. IMIB now has the opportunity to demonstrate that the Island is again a vibrant source entertaining radio for the whole of the British Isles". The Director of the Commission, Anthony Hewitt, added "It is now nearly 3 years since the selection of IMIB to exploit this opportunity was approved. With planning issues behind them, the way is now clear for IMIB and its backers to get the station on air and to realise its full commercial potential".

New Mi Amigo book from Hans Knot

A new book covering the history of Radio Mi Amigo has been written by Dutch offshore expert Hans Knot. In this volume (it's not his first Mi Amigo book!) he covers the period January 1977- January 1978. In this period many Mi Amigo employees left the organisation in Spain (led by Sylvain Tack) but also aboard the Mi Amigo a number of live presenters left the ship for good. Popular presenters like Stan and Michelle Haag, Marc Jacobs and Frank van der Mast left the station. Certainly a great loss, an enormous wave of publicity was the result (both positive and negative). Several tenders were caught by the Belgian authorities. In volume 3 it is live jock Marc Jacobs (Baken 16) who tells exclusive stories never been told before. For a little foretaste surf to < www.soundscape.info >. Radio Mi Amigo Memories volume 3 (in Dutch!) can be ordered for €15. People within the Netherlands: make out a cheque out to J A Knot in Groningen, giro 2929268. Foreign people have to pay in cash.

Delta 171: Au Revoir!

Delta 171 is over, finished, goodbye. Fri December 28th the president of the Rotterdam court decided that Delta Radio has to cease all future plans/activities. According to the license granted by the Dutch authorities, the deadline for Delta to start trms on 171 kHz LW was January 1st 2002. As the station didn't fulfil the conditions, it was clear that this would bring the project in danger. Salient detail: the license had been expired a number of times already by the Dutch. July 2000 Delta was offered a final chance.. On the Soundscapes site the full story is to be read, written by Walter Dubateau.

Atlantic 252: the end

Mid February Atlantic 252's trms came to an end. From now on the 252 long wave frequency is used for non-stop speech-based sports pxx using the name TEAMtalk. RTE will keep its 20% share, TEAMtalk owes the remaining 80%. This means the end of the CLT/Ufa involvement in the project. They had a majority share.

20th anniversary DX-Antwerp

On the occasion of its 20th anniversary DX-Antwerp will broadcast a special commemorative programme, via Krasnodar Tbiliskaya in Russia, on the 25th of May 2002 between 08:00 and 09:00 UTC. Frequencies will be 17785 kHz (250 kW) and 9945 kHz (100 kW).

A specially issued QSL card will be available for correct reception reports. During this broadcast five keywords will be given. If you note at least 4 of these keywords, you can send them, together with a reception report to the following address: DX-Antwerp, PO Box 16, B-2660 Hoboken, Belgium or email us at: < qsl@dxa.be >. After verification of your reply, we will send you this special DX-Antwerp QSL card by mail. More informations also on the website at < www.dxa.be >.

MADE IN HOLLAND

Mebo II transmitters

What happened to the Mebo II, that colorful radioship being once being the home of Radio North Sea Int. Already in the mid 80s it was Erwin Meister revealing that the ship was used as a target by the Libyan airforce. As a result she sank to the bottom of the Mediterranean. In advance, the transmitting equipment was dismantled: not only the original R.N.I. txs but also a 10 kW spare tx which was bought from Veronica in 1975. This 10



kW unit is nowadays still being used on 909 kHz (in Kufra). The 105 kW R.N.I. tx is on a site in Benghazi tuned to 675 kHz (with 100 kW of power).

Radio Monique IJmuiden

Dec. 31st came an end to the trms of the IJmuiden based Radio Monique. Monique was set up by a number of former deejays working for the offshore station Monique in the mid 80s. In the past three summers, RMI was closely involved in the organisation of the 'Muziek uit Zee' project. This two-day August event was a weekend full of Offshore nostalgia with pxs being presented by several former on air personalities from a small vessel (Willem Beukels) off the Dutch coast. A great number of Dutch FM stations relayed the signal. Monique will be returning under a different name, Seaport FM. Mon Dec. 31st 12.00- 15.00 hours saw a retrospect on the past years when the station was serving the IJmuiden area. Interested in photos from the 2001 edition of "Muziek uit Zee"? Visit < www.mediapages.nl/muziek.htm > Radio Nationaal

Former Veronica/ Caroline/ Mi Amigo/ RTL television employee Ruud Hendriks has acquired a 75% share in the Dutch commercial radio station Radio National. Radio National is broadcasting on 1296 kHz via a BBC transmitter putting out mainly Dutch artists. Radio Ned (private company) who bought the shares is fully owned by Ruud Hendriks. He started his radio career on Radio Mi Amigo in January 1978. July 2001 saw the start of Radio Nationaal. The station using a very powerful 500kW outlet, can be heard in very good AM quality in wide areas of Western Europe.

Radio 192: a Success Story

Since the start in the Summer of 2001, Radio 192 is becoming increasingly popular. The station which is a continuation of Okay FM is broadcasting on a great number of FM freqs (via cable networks) in different parts of the Netherlands. However, that's not enough for a nationwide coverage. Radio 192 is doing all in its power to obtain of the two remaining licenses which will be issued by the Dutch authorities this Summer. These two licenses will guarantee nationwide or almost nationwide terrestrial FM coverage. Obtaining a license will cost a lot of money but it looks like the station has found a major backer. The other competitor for an FM license is Arrow Classic Rock. This station is also heard via cable networks covering having almost a nationwide coverage. Arrow is also to be heard on 828 kHz via a 25 kW digital Harris AM transmitter. The same type of transmitter with only 5 kW- is being used by Radio 192 (1332 kHz) from a transmitting site in Lopik (near Utrecht in the central part of the country). Radio 192 is in fact a 2002 continuation of Radio Veronica during its offshore adventure. Not only many former offshore jocks are presenting daily or weekend pxs, several pxs are named after the shows in the offshore period. "Muziek terwijl U werkt", "Sangria" etc. Various original Veronica offshore jingles have been resung and it's refreshing how these jingles sound in 2002. Radio 192 is concentrating on oldies but is playing a much more varied output than for instance Radio 10 FM. Every Sun morning between 10.00- 12.00 hours, 192 is putting out two nostalgic pxs from the Veronica offshore period under the name "Flashback". Every week you can read on the website which pxs are going to be heard along with some interesting facts. Former studio engineer Juul Geleick is the man who's in charge of this Flashback show. He is choosing the programmes and is also transferring the complete Veronica tape archive from reel-to-reel to Digital Audio Tape. An enormous job. At the same time he's storing all information on hard disk (Filemaker Pro database software). Another interesting show is the Veronica Top 40 each Sat afternoon 14.00- 16.00. Every edition the station goes back in time to a Top 40 broadcasted (almost) exactly 30 years before. Take a look on the very professional website of the station and breathe the taste of radio. It's worth a visit! < www.radio192.nl >. You can also listening live to the station via a link on this website. On < www.mediapages.nl/radio192.htm > there's a kind of 192 photobook. Last but not least: in the Intomart Radiocall survey carried out in November 2001, it appeared that Radio 192 had a 3% market share based on 545,000 cable connections. April 1st 2002 the number of connections will be increased to 3,4 million households!!

Freek Simon passes away

Friday Febr. 22nd Freek Simon died in the age of 59 in his birthplace Hilversum. He was seriously ill already for a considerable time. It was Willem van Kooten better known as Joost de Draaier who persuaded Freek to start a career as newsreader on the Veronica ship Norderney. That was in 1968. For a 5 year period, Freek stayed on the ship reading the hourly newsbulletins. In 1973 he left Veronica and continued his career at the ANP reading out the news on national Hilversum 1, 2 & 3. In 1976 he joined the TROS and he was in the editorial staff of many TROS TV shows. In addition he presented a few TV spxs himself. Number 1 hits on Radio 10 FM Starting on Saturday March 16th, Radio 10 FM presents a new show called 'The History of the Number 1 Hits'. Every week the 60 min. show features the best number 1 hits from the history of popmusic. The show is presented by

Peter Hooghiemstra, every Saturday between 18:00- 19:00 hours. Using the American, British and Dutch charts, Peter tells the stories behind the number 1 hits. For more info we refer at the Radio 10 FM website: < www.radio10.nl >

Veronica Society back on the Dutch TV/Radio

Veronica will return on the Dutch cable April 1st (no April Fool's joke!). From that day onwards the new Veronica FM will be heard on 25% of all available UPC cable connections (300,000). No plans have been announced about the format of the station. Veronica TV will start two weeks later via popular The Music Factory. This station is a 24 hour music station. Veronica's TV pxs will start each day at 18.00 hours.

Future of Communicator: ???

Af januari 18th it became known that a container has been put again next to the MV Communicator at Almere harbour, filled with a generator. After Q the Beat stopped transmissions from the ship at December 10th 2001, all kind of rumours were going around concerning the future of the former Laser vessel. Including Arrow taking over from Q The Beat. What will be next is a big surprise... We will keep you informed.

INTERNET RADIO

In this column we feature a great variety of Internet websites related to radio plus interesting Internet radio news. Contributions are more than welcome....

- The first site is from AFN Vietnam: < www.geocities.com/afn >.
- A fan site for popular Dutch deejay Jeroen van Inkel: < all.at/inkelfan >. More Van Inkel: < www.rinkeldekinkel.com >.
- An offshore site: < www.surf.to/zeezenderland >.
- Back to Radio Essex broadcasting from one of the forts in the Thames Estuary in the 60s: < www.digitalessex.com/history/radio/index/shtml >.
- Another Essex related site: < www.petesipple.co.uk/essexradio.html >.
- An excellent site telling the early history of American radio: < www.ipass.net/~whitetho/index.html >. This site includes several links.
- The history of Washington radio: < www.440int.com/dc.html >.
- From the period that a number of famous Dutch landbased pirates ruled the waves: < www.pirateradio.jinglenetwork.nl >.
- Site of Belgina Radio Contact: < www.radiocontact.be >.
- A site with the story of the short-lived Dutch offshore station Radio Paradijs: < home.wanadoo.nl/radioparadijs >.
- Another offshore site: < zeezenders.fateback.com >.
- A Laser site from Theo van de Velde: < listen.to/laser558 >.
- An excellent Mi Amigo site with jingles and extract: < www.radiomiamigo.org >.
- < www.saga.co.uk/primetime/cash_profile.htm > is a Dave Cash site..
- Although many big international broadcasters are cutting back their SW activities (preferring for instance satellite and internet), still a great number are active these days. Just surf to < rol.orf.at > and convince yourself!
- Well-known Dutch deejay Ferry Maat has opened his very own site informing people about his jingle productions for stations in the Netherlands and Germany. < www.ferrymaat.nl >.
- A site for HAMs and pirates: < www.kwik-net.nl/users/ >.
- Look Boden worked on Radio Dolfijn in the 60s: < www.multishopboden.com >.
- Another interesting site aimed at the music played on Caroline & Big L in the 60s: < www.sixtiescity.velnet.com/Radio/PirateSounds.htm#top >.
- RIAS Berlin once was an important station. < www.rias2history.de >.
- BFBS shows were popular in Germany: < www.pagemagic.net/bfbfgermany >.
- Memories on Radio Luxembourg: < www.skonnad.de/radio/208/ >.
- More on Offshore stations: < www.transdiffusion.org/rmc >.
- The "Muziek uit Zee" project (see FRS Nwl 31) < www.hollandspoduk.nl/frames/192/192rtlnieuws >.
- Do you like the so-called Interval signals? < www.intervalsignals.net >.
- A British newspaper has some memories of popradio from years gone by: < www.eveningstar.co.uk/Content/columns/kindred/htm/010214pop.asp >.
- A look in the ritch archive of the pirate scene in De Hague: < www.haagsradioarchief.nl >.
- A former Voice of Peace deejay (James Hutchinson) has opened a site with photos: < www.freehost.nu/members/voppictures/ >.
- A new site about offshore stations: < listen.to/radioenmeer >.
- Updated: the site of Europe 1 < www.europe1.fr >.
- Two Tony Blackburn sites: < www.mpce.com/blackburn.htm > and < www.thevoiceworks.com >.
- Recent photos from the former Veronica ship Norderney: < www.gironet.nl/home/rovawe/veronica >.
- German Offshore expert Peter Messingfeld tells about his radio travelling: < www.travelseries.tripod.com >.
- A site offshore radio: < www.geocities.com/offshoreradio1960s/ >.

Txs to: Hans Knot, SRS-News, Dr. Tim News, Paul Rusling.

FRS-Holland hopes to carry out a broadcast on either 41 or 31 metres in May. We will announce the broadcast via the Internet. FRS has a brandnew E-mail address: < frs.holland@hccnet.nl >.